

APA-2

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

RULE NO. & TITLE: 850-X-2.01 Definitions

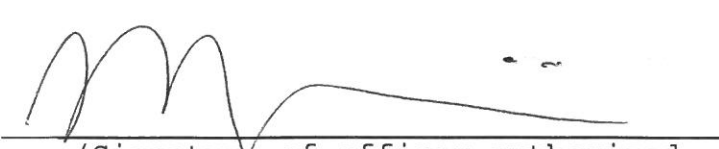
INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Board proposes to amend the regulations to include telehealth within the scope of practice and to outline procedures that must be followed by social workers.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Written comments will be accepted by the Board until 4:30pm on Friday, August 2nd, 2019. Comments should be directed to Rachel Dickinson, Executive Director at 100 North Union Street, Suite 736, Montgomery, AL 36104 or via electronic mail at Rachel.dickinson@swb.alabama.gov

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:
Friday, August 2nd, 2019.

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Rachel Dickinson, Executive Director
100 North Union Street, Suite 736
Montgomery, AL 36104
334-242-5860


(Signature of officer authorized
to promulgate and adopt
rules or his or her deputy)

CHAPTER 850-X-2
DEFINITIONS

850-X-2-.01 Definitions of Terms.

(1) To the extent not defined within these rules and regulations, Code of Ala. 1975, §34-30-1 (1991) also provides for definitions of the following terms: Board; Social Work; Social Work Practice; Social Work Specialty; Social Work Method; Full-Time Social Work; Part-Time Social Work.

(2) **Social Work Practice.** The Board defines social work practice as including both direct and indirect practice. Direct practice includes the delivery of services to individuals, families, groups, and communities. Indirect practice includes conducting research into problems of human behavior and conflict, and applying principles and techniques of consultation, social planning, administration, and supervision. The teaching of social work by an individual employed in social work education and presenting him/herself to the public as a social worker is considered social work practice.

(3) **Social Work Method.** Areas of practice methods include the following:

(a) **Social Casework.** A method of helping people based on knowledge, understanding, and the use of techniques skillfully applied to helping individuals solve and manage problems. It is individualized and although scientific, i.e., derives its understanding from the disciplines of science, also includes artistic effort. It helps individuals with personal as well as external environmental difficulties. It is a matter of helping through a relationship that taps personal and other resources for coping with problems. Interviewing is a major tool of social casework.

(b) **Clinical Social Work Practice.**

1. Clinical social work shares with all social work practice the goal of enhancement and maintenance of psychosocial functioning of individuals, families, and small groups. Clinical social work practice is the professional application of social work theory and methods to the treatment and prevention of psychosocial dysfunction, disability, or impairment, including emotional and mental disorders. It is based on knowledge of one or more theories of human development within a psychosocial context. The perspective of person-in-situation is central to clinical social work practice.

2. Clinical social work services consist of assessment; diagnostic impression; treatment, including psychotherapy and counseling; client-centered advocacy; and evaluation. It includes direct client intervention, client centered supervision and client centered consultation. It involves the scientific, artful, ethical application of social work theories and methods of assessment, opinions, diagnostic impression, prevention and treatment. Assessment of interpersonal relationships, mental health status, family dynamics, environmental stresses and supports, social systems and the impact of physical, emotional and mental illness and disability on functioning are the emphasis of clinical social work practice.

3. Clinical social work also includes crisis intervention, case management and client centered advocacy. Treatment methods are designed to provide the client and opportunity to express himself or herself, and foster an atmosphere of candid self observation, expectations of change and amenability to the social worker's efforts to facilitate such change.

4. The primary focus of the clinical social worker is on the needs, interests and welfare of the client. The goal of clinical social work practice is to relieve a client's psychosocial distress; to help the client to modify barriers that are preventing the client from realizing his or her human potential or enjoying rewarding interpersonal relationships; and to improve the overall functioning of the client. The basic value postulates of social work practice are essential to the process.

(c) **Community Organization.** A conscious process of social interaction and method of social work concerned with bringing about and maintaining adjustment between needs and resources in a community or other areas; helping people to deal more effectively with their problems and objectives by helping them develop, strengthen and maintain qualities of participation, self-direction and cooperation, and bringing about changes in community and group relationships and in the distribution of decision-making power. The community is the primary client in community organizations. The community may be an organization, neighborhood, city, county, state or national entity.

(d) **Social Work Research.** The professional study of human capabilities and practice of social work specialties, including direct and indirect practice, through the formal organization and the methodology of data collection and the analysis and evaluation of social work data.

(e) **Social Work Administration.** The practice concerned primarily with translating laws, technical knowledge and administrative rulings into organizational goals and operational policies to guide organizational behavior; designing organizational structure and procedures or processes through which social work goals can be achieved; and securing resources in the form of material, staff, clients and societal legitimation necessary for goal attainment and organizational survival.

(4) **Psychosocial Assessment.** The determination of psychosocial functioning involves a comprehensive process, assessment and evaluation conducted by the social worker in order to learn about the client. It includes four levels of analysis: the individual; the interpersonal system; the family unit and the family's interchange with its social network; and other environmental or ecological factors. Interviewing is the major tool of psychosocial assessment. Psychosocial assessment does not include making diagnoses, nor interpreting of psychological tests.

(5) **Psychotherapy.** A specialized, formal interaction between a social worker and a client (individual, couple, family or group) in which a therapeutic relationship is established to help resolve symptoms of mental disorder, psychosocial stress, relationship problems and difficulties in coping in the social environment.

(6) **Counseling.** Counseling is to render evaluation and therapy that includes, but is not limited to, providing individual counseling, family counseling, marital counseling, group therapy, group counseling, play therapy, rehabilitation counseling, art therapy, human growth and development counseling, couples counseling, chemical abuse or dependency counseling, career counseling, and vocational disability counseling utilizing specific methods, techniques, or modalities.

(7) **Telehealth.** Telehealth is a mode of providing social work services through interactive audio, video or electronic communication occurring between a licensed social worker and the client, including any electronic communication for evaluation, assessment, treatment, and management of confidential information and case records in a secure platform.

Author: Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-30-1 (1991); §34-30-57(6) (1991). **History: Repealed and Replaced:** Filed October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; Filed July 19, 2007; effective December 12, 2007; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016. Amended: Filed June 20, 2019; effective

850-X-2-.02 Classification of Social Workers. The Board is required by statute to promulgate rules and regulations which set forth professional standards for the four classes of social worker. Alabama law recognizes four classes of Social Workers: Licensed Bachelor Social Worker; Licensed Master Social Worker; Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker; Private Independent Practice.

(1) **Licensed Bachelor Social Worker (LBSW)** is the basic licensing level. The LBSW must have a baccalaureate degree in social work from an accredited college or university whose social work program is approved or accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The candidate for the LBSW licensure must pass an exam as prescribed by the Board, then the LBSW is prepared to assume the beginning level professional role in public and private social service agencies. The Board requires that the LBSW work under the continuing supervision of a licensed master social worker or a licensed clinical independent social worker for two (2) years or more, without further supervision as long as the LBSW remains in the same field of social work practice, job responsibilities are similar, and holds a current license. Licensed Bachelor Social Workers are prepared through beginning professional knowledge in human behavior in the social environment, generalist social work practice, knowledge of the history of social policy, knowledge of how to utilize social research finding in their practice and having had supervised field practicum experience. The LBSW provides generalist services in the role of social broker, enabler, counselor, case manager, educator, client advocate and mediator. Licensed Bachelor Social Workers may work with individuals, families, communities, groups and organizations. Licensed Bachelor Social Workers may conduct psychosocial assessments and may take social histories and/or conduct home studies. The LBSW utilizes the basic problem-solving process of gathering information, assessing that information at a beginning professional level, developing a plan of care, then assuming the roles enumerated above, implements the plan and conducts follow-up. An LBSW may not prescribe medication. An LBSW may take verbal orders from physicians only pertaining to social work practice.

(2) **Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)** - The LMSW must have a master of social work or a doctor of social work degree from a college or university approved or accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The candidate for licensure at the LMSW level must pass an exam as prescribed by the Board. An LMSW must keep a current license. An LMSW provides a wide range of services. The LMSW has preparation as a generalist social worker, knowledge of the history of social policy, knowledge of how to utilize social research finding in their practice and having had supervised field practicum experience with additional specialization in either direct or indirect services such as work in a field of practice or with a specific population. The LMSW may evaluate and assess difficulties in psychosocial functioning, develop a plan to alleviate those difficulties and either carry out the plan or refer clients to other qualified resources for assistance. An LMSW may provide preventive and treatment services pertaining to individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations. The LMSW should be

able to engage the client system, develop a relationship and employ a series of interventions that modify or eliminate targeted behaviors and can promote positive growth and development. The LMSW can explain and interpret the results of social evaluations in the problem-solving process. The LMSW is able to supervise Licensed Bachelor Social Workers and practice in social casework, clinical social work, community organization, social work research, and social work administration. An LMSW may not prescribe medication. An LMSW may take verbal orders from physicians only pertaining to social work practice.

(3) **Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)** - The LICSW must have a master of social work or a doctor of social work degree from a college or university approved or accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and hold a current LMSW license. The LICSW must have received two (2) years or more of postgraduate continuing supervision provided by an LICSW prior to application for the LICSW exam. The LICSW candidate must pass an exam as prescribed by the Board. The LICSW should be able to exercise independent judgment. The LICSW should be able to demonstrate skill and interventions directly related to individuals, families, groups, communities, or organizations. In at least one of these client groups, the LICSW shall demonstrate in-depth knowledge and skills. The LICSW should be able to employ practice theory and research findings in all aspects of their practice. The LICSW may supervise Licensed Bachelor Social Workers and Licensed Master Social Workers. An LICSW may not prescribe medication. An LICSW may take verbal orders from physicians only pertaining to social work practice.

(4) **Private Independent Practice (PIP)** - An LICSW may apply to the Board to engage in private practice of social work. Private practice of social work means that portion of social work practice in which a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker is engaged in the private practice of social work services which includes practicing as an independent contractor in one (1) or more areas of practice methods: social casework, clinical social work, and community organization. The LICSW with a PIP certification must maintain a current LICSW license. For purposes of this section, the term "postgraduate" refers to that portion of experience acquired after having received one's master or doctoral degree in social work. The applicant for certification for private independent practice must present verifiable information regarding the appropriate degree, experience as defined in this section and appropriate supervision. The LICSW applying for PIP certification must have;

(a) three (3) years full-time or five (5) years part-time experience after receiving the MSW and legally practicing in the specified social work method, or

(b) one (1) year full-time or two (2) years part-time postgraduate experience in the specified social work method after receiving the LICSW.

Furthermore, the applicant must define the practice method for which application is being made and present all information in relation to that defined practice method. An applicant may submit information relating to more than one (1) practice method and may be certified, at the outset, in more than one (1) practice method. The examination for private independent practice is the same as that for the LICSW license.

Author: Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-30-3 (1991); 34-30-23 (1991); 34-30-57(6) (1991).

History: Repealed and Replaced: Filed October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; Filed July 19, 2007; effective December 12, 2007; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016.

850-X-2-.03 Supervision.

(1) Supervision for this and all other sections wherein it is addressed means guidance in the professional application of social work practice as defined by law. Supervision is seen as a relationship between a supervisor and supervisee designed to promote responsibility, competency, and accountability, and which teaches the skills and techniques associated with social work practice.

(a) Individual supervision is defined as one supervisee meeting face-to-face with one supervisor. It can also be live, interactive, visual communication as long as all three components are met during the session.

(b) Group supervision is defined as a maximum of six supervisees with similar responsibilities meeting face-to-face with one supervisor.

(2) Supervision can occur within an agency, institution, or group practice setting.

(3) Supervision for the purpose of these rules is not necessarily synonymous with the relationship of employer/employee. It is considered to be the responsibility of the licensee to negotiate a supervisory relationship, if such a relationship is not available within the employing agency.

Author: Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-30-57(6) (1991).

HISTORY: REPEALED AND REPLACED: Filed October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016.

850-X-2-.04 Telehealth.

(1) An individual who provides social work via telehealth to a client located in Alabama shall have an active license in the State of Alabama and be in good standing with the Board and shall comply with the standards of professional conduct and ethics, section 850-X-9-.01 of the administrative code.

(2) Upon initiation of telehealth services, a licensee shall

(a) Obtain informed consent from the client. The consent shall be documented.

(b) Assess whether the client is appropriate for telehealth.

(c) Utilize best practices for telehealth to ensure both client confidentiality and the security of the communication.

(3) The client must be located within the borders of the State of Alabama.

(4) The licensee shall ensure that the electronic communication is secure to maintain confidentiality of the client's health information as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

(5) A licensee who uses telehealth to provide services shall make reasonable effort to become and remain knowledgeable about the advantages and drawbacks of professional online relationships.

Author: Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-30-57(6) (1991).

| History: Amended: Filed June 20, 2019; effective

APA-2

(Agency Name)
(Agency Division, if applicable)

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

RULE NO. & TITLE: 850-X-10-.18 Disciplinary Proceedings

INTENDED ACTION: Repeal

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Board proposes to amend the regulations by removing 850-X-10-.18 based on findings by the Examiners of Public Accounts.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Written comments will be accepted by the Board until 4:30pm on Friday, August 2nd, 2019. Comments should be directed to Rachel Dickinson, Executive Director at 100 North Union Street, Suite 736, Montgomery, AL 36104 or via electronic mail at Rachel.dickinson@swb.alabama.gov

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:
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REPEALED

An applicant must include in the application evidence that the current requirements for licensure and certification have been met.

(2) Board Action. Upon receipt of an application for reinstatement the Board may in its discretion grant an applicant a hearing on reinstatement, at which time the applicant may appeal to the Board to reinstate his/her license or certification.

(3) Burden of Proof. In any application for reinstatement, the applicant shall have the burden of establishing to the reasonable satisfaction of the Board that the applicant is entitled to the specific relief requested.

(4) Terms and Conditions. In the event an application for reinstatement is granted, the Board may impose such probationary terms and conditions as are necessary in its judgment to protect the public.

Author: Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-30-5 (1991); 41-22-12 (1996 Supp.).

History: Repealed and Replaced: Filed October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016.

~~850-X-10-.18 Reinstatement of Expired License~~

~~The Board may reinstate an expired license within five (5) years of the expiration upon the payment of the fine of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars, the payment of the current license renewal fee, and proof of thirty (30) hours if reactivated within the first year of expiration; should the license be expired longer than one year but less than five an additional requirement of fifteen (15) contact hours will be required with the maximum of ninety (90) contact hours.~~

~~**Author:** Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners~~

~~**Statutory Authority:** Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-30-5 (1991); 41-22-12 (1996 Supp.).~~

~~**History:** Filed June 30, 2014; effective October 4, 2014; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016.~~

(DATE FILED)
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APA-2

(Agency Name)
(Agency Division, if applicable)

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

RULE NO. & TITLE: 850-X-8-.01 Continuing Education

INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Board proposes to amend the regulations to clarify continuing education requirements.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Written comments will be accepted by the Board until 4:30pm on Friday, August 2nd, 2019. Comments should be directed to Rachel Dickinson, Executive Director at 100 North Union Street, Suite 736, Montgomery, AL 36104 or via electronic mail at Rachel.dickinson@swb.alabama.gov

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CHAPTER 850-X-8
CONTINUING EDUCATION

850-X-8-.01 Continuing Education.

(1) This rule defines continuing education, continuing education unit (CEU), contact hour, the types of activities which are acceptable for fulfillment of requirements, the documentation required, and the amount of continuing education required for a renewal period for each category of licensure. This rule shall be published by the Board and made available to licensed social workers.

(2) Continuing Education means education which fosters the enhancement of general or specialized social work practice, values, skills or knowledge.

(3) CEUs are defined on the basis of ten contact hours per CEU and may be earned in whole or a fraction thereof. Contact hour means one clock hour of organized learning experience. One clock hour means a sixty minute clock hour of instruction, not including coffee breaks or lunch.

(4) The contact hour requirements for each category of licensure are as follows:

(a) A licensed bachelor social worker must submit proof of thirty (30) contact hours of continuing education, of which 10 hours must be a live classroom event.

(b) A licensed master social worker must submit proof of thirty (30) contact hours of continuing education, of which 10 hours must be a live classroom event.

(c) A licensed independent clinical social worker must submit proof of thirty (30) contact hours of continuing education, of which 10 hours must be a live classroom event.

(d) A minimum of three (3) contact hours in ethics and three(3) contact hours in clinical are required for each license renewal.

(e) A licensee providing supervision under an approved contract for supervision is required to obtain three (3) contact hours in supervision.

~~(e)(f) It is recommended that all licensees and applicants are required complete the to complete a mandatory Child Abuse and Neglect Report training. as required by Alabama Law 26-14-3 for licensure. This is a one-time requirement recommendation.~~

(5) The following types of continuing education activities are acceptable for fulfillment of continuing education requirements:

(a) Regionally accredited university or college academic courses in social work or related social work disciplines. One undergraduate academic semester hour successfully completed shall be equivalent to ten contact hours per semester hour. One graduate academic semester hour successfully completed shall be equivalent to fifteen contact hours per semester hour. Five contact hours may be received for auditing an academic course from a related discipline.

(b) Continuing education programs sponsored by university or college social work programs.

(c) Board approved workshops, institutes or conferences sponsored by official national, regional, or state social work or social welfare related organizations. Sponsoring organizations are responsible for obtaining approval for contact hour credit prior to conducting the activity. A list of annual conferences and/or sponsoring organizations will be made available to licensed social workers upon request.

(d) Board approved public or private agency staff development programs that contribute to the enhancement of social work practice, skills or knowledge. Agencies are to submit quarterly projections of programs to the Board which could include outlines of specific programs and vitae of

presenters. To update files, agencies may provide to the Board brochures and other literature on completed programs.

(e) Workshops or presentations not under the auspices of any organized agency. This section refers to activities planned by individuals working independently. Contact hours will be approved from the information submitted prior to the activity.

(f) Publication of a professional social work paper. The initial publication shall be acceptable for twenty contact hours. Presentation of a professional social work paper for the first time at a Board approved professional conference shall be acceptable for fifteen contact hours. Participating as a panel member for a Board approved workshop or conference shall be acceptable for two times the approved contact hours for the session. Facilitating, moderating, or leading a Board approved workshop or conference shall be acceptable for the approved contact hours for the session.

(g) Self-directed learning project (maximum twenty contact hours). Projects intended to increase knowledge shall be documented by means of a paper, annotated bibliography, etc. Projects intended to increase skill development by means of audio or audio-visual tapes shall be documented. Credit for self-directed learning projects may be granted provided the project is completed and approved prior to the current license expiration. Projects not completed and approved by the license expiration date can be considered for the licensee's next renewal period. The Board recommends that self-directed learning project proposals be submitted at least nine months prior to the expiration date of licensure to provide sufficient time for review, project completion, and approval. Reading a book, preparing a paper in a graduate course, or case consultation shall not meet the requirements for this activity.

(6) Documentation means dated evidence of participation in continuing education activities. Evidence such as receipts of registration, copy of publication or program listing the presentation is considered documentation. Continuing education documentation must be submitted on a form provided by the Board and accompanied by the licensee's application for renewal.

(7) The Board may request verification of credits submitted, including information regarding content, certification, and attendance. It is the responsibility of the licensee to obtain records to substantiate credits. Failure to substantiate credits submitted or to submit documentation of sufficient continuing education credits may result in refusal by the Board to renew a license.

Author: Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-30-57(5) (1991).

History: Repealed and Replaced: Filed October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; March 8, 2007; effective April 12, 2007; October 4, 2014; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016.

Amended: Filed June 20, 2019; effective

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APA-2

(Agency Name)
(Agency Division, if applicable)

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

RULE NO. & TITLE: 850-X-6-.03 Examinations

INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Board proposes to amend the regulations to expand on provisional license status.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Written comments will be accepted by the Board until 4:30pm on Friday, August 2nd, 2019. Comments should be directed to Rachel Dickinson, Executive Director at 100 North Union Street, Suite 736, Montgomery, AL 36104 or via electronic mail at Rachel.dickinson@swb.alabama.gov

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**CHAPTER 850-X-6
EXAMINATIONS**

850-X-6-.01 Eligibility for Examinations. To be eligible to sit for the examination for licensure the applicant must provide evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant possesses the educational qualifications and qualifying experience outlined in the Code of Ala. 1975, §34-30-22 (1991).

The applicant must:

(1) be at least nineteen years old;

(2) subscribe to the professional code of ethics approved and adopted by the Board;

(3) meet the following additional requirements:

(a) Bachelor Social Worker: have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university including completion of a social work program approved or accredited or in candidacy by the Council on Social Work Education.

(b) Master Social Worker: have a master of social work or a doctor of social work from a college or university approved or accredited or in candidacy by the Council on Social Work Education.

(c) Independent Clinical Social Worker:

1. have a master of social work or a doctor of social work from a college or university approved or accredited or in candidacy by the Council on Social Work Education and holds a current LMSW; and

2. have at least two years of post-master or post-doctorate experience in the practice of social work under the supervision of a licensed independent clinical social worker.

Author: Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-30-22 (1996 Supp.); 34-30-57(4) (1991).

History: Repealed and Replaced: Filed October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; March 8, 2007; effective April 12, 2007; October 4, 2014; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016.

850-X-6-.02 Examination Results. Dissemination of the examination results is the responsibility of the testing agency.

Author: Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-30-22 (1996 Supp.); 34-30-57(4) (1991).

History: Repealed and Replaced: Filed October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; October 4, 2014; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016.

~~**850-X-6-.03 Eligibility for Re-Examination.** Satisfactory completion of an exam must be made within twelve months after an application is approved by the Board. After the expiration of twelve months from the date of application, an applicant must submit a new application and necessary fees. During this time, the applicant shall not practice social work or otherwise exercise the rights and privileges granted to a licensed social worker.~~

~~**Author:** Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners. Provisional License. After an application is approved by the Board the applicant has twelve months from the date of application to test to become a licensed social worker. During this timeframe the approved candidate is granted a onetime provisional status where they are eligible to practice social work and otherwise exercise the rights and privileges granted to a likened social worker. After the expiration of twelve months from the date of the original application and if the applicant has not become licensed, the provisional license status is no longer active. At that time an applicant must submit a new application and~~

the necessary fees to be eligible for re-examination. During this time, the applicant shall not practice social work or otherwise exercise the rights and privileges granted to a licensed social worker.

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-30-22 (1996 Supp.); 34-30-57(4) (1991).

History: Repealed and Replaced: Filed October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; March 8, 2007; effective April 12, 2007; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016. Amended: Filed June 20, 2019; effective

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APA-2

(Agency Name)
(Agency Division, if applicable)

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners

RULE NO. & TITLE: 850-X-4-.02 Applications for Licensure and Certification

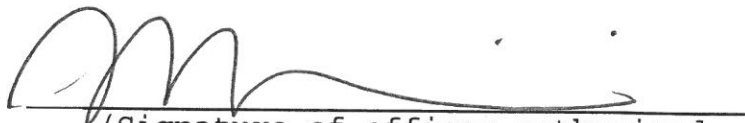
INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Board proposes to amend the regulations to include military spouse reciprocity law.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Written comments will be accepted by the Board until 4:30pm on Friday, August 2nd, 2019. Comments should be directed to Rachel Dickinson, Executive Director at 100 North Union Street, Suite 736, Montgomery, AL 36104 or via electronic mail at Rachel.dickinson@swb.alabama.gov

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shall be obtained from applicants or licensees prior to any necessary communication with any individual or agency regarding an applicant. However, agency supervisors, or employers, in their efforts to verify compliance with the licensing requirements, may be informed of the status of an application or the currency of an individual's license. In such instances, a note should be made in the applicant or licensee's file as to who inquired, what information was given, and by whom the information was released.

(9) The Board requires an official transcript confirming the completion of the degree as required by the Code of Alabama 34-30-22. Transcripts must bear the official seal and be mailed directly from the college or university to the Board or other Board approved authority.

(10) Withholding information, misrepresentation, or untrue statements will be cause for denial of an application.

Author: Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-30-232 (1991); 41-22-4(a) (2) (1991).

History: Repealed and Replaced: Filed: October 31, 1997; Operative December 5, 1997; effective January 1, 1998; March 8, 2007; effective April 12, 2007; effective October 4, 2014; September 15, 2016; effective October 21, 2016.

850-X-4-.02 Reciprocity and Applications from Non-Residents.

(1) Reciprocity. Reciprocity shall be granted by the Board to applicants holding active licenses from other states provided equivalency of standards exists. A comparison shall be made between the requirements for licensure under Alabama law and requirements for licensure under the law in the state where the licensee holds an active license. Reciprocity will be granted for whatever level is applicable. Where necessary the Board shall request additional information from the applicant in order to clarify whether or not equivalency exists.

(2) Non-Alabama residents who hold an active social work license from another state of the United States may apply for licensure or certification provided:

(a) the state in which the applicant holds a license or certification requires standards equivalent to Alabama's for licensing or certification;

(b) the applicant agrees to be bound by all the provisions of the State of Alabama law governing social workers, and submits to the jurisdiction of the Board, and agrees to be subject to the investigations and disciplinary actions by the Board; and

(c) The applicant otherwise complies with the provisions of Alabama law and the rules pertaining to the application and certification of social workers in Alabama.

(3) Upon payment of all fees, non-resident applicants who meet all the above requirements and have taken a social worker licensure examination are not required to take the Alabama examination. The non-resident applicant shall complete an Alabama application and provide the necessary information from the resident state that the applicant holds a valid license or certification in good standing issued by the licensing or regulatory agency in the state as attested to by a statement under seal from the agency setting forth:

(a) the type of license or certification held by the applicant and the license or certification number;

(b) the date of licensure or certification and the expiration date of the applicant's current license or certification;

(c) proof of the examination taken by the applicant;

(d) verification of supervision in that state; and

(e) a complete record of any disciplinary actions taken or pending against the applicant.

(4) Reciprocity filed under a State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor of Alabama upon request a person with a valid and active social work license may be issued a temporary license to practice in this state as long as the State of Emergency is in effect.

(5) Military spouse reciprocity applicants must submit a copy of a current social work license from other state(s) along with official military orders showing relocation to and stationed in Alabama.

Author: Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-30-24 (1991). Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-1-6 (2017).

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